

want them enforcing immigration and smuggling laws. Are they going to call ICE to come out there? The Federal Government's already said they can't protect you. So why call 9/11? That's a useless call.

And the last one it says: the BLM, the Bureau of Land Management, encourages visitors to use public lands north of Interstate 8 because, see, we can't protect you as the Federal Government in the land south of Interstate 8 that goes all the way to Mexico. Has the Federal Government ceded that land to Mexico, the drug dealers, and the human coyotes? Kind of sounds like it to me.

And now what is the Federal Government's response besides putting up a bunch of these signs saying, Don't travel America; don't take your kids across this country because it's not safe. We can't protect you. The Federal Government has decided to send its lawyers to the courthouse and sue the State of Arizona so they won't enforce and protect their own law.

The Federal Government ought to spend less time sending lawyers to the courthouse and spend a little more time sending the National Guard down to the border to keep people from coming into this country without permission. After all, it is the Federal Government's responsibility to protect us and let us travel all of our interstate highways, even Interstate 8 in Arizona.

And that's just the way it is.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, tonight I would like to bring up the issue of Afghanistan. This weekend in the Raleigh News and Observer, they published 20 names of our men and women who have given their lives for this country. As most of you know, I have written over 9,000 letters to immediate and extended families of the fallen. Lately, the numbers have dramatically increased. More and more of our sons and daughters in uniform are paying the ultimate price.

I would like to reference this poster beside me. The picture's of a flag-draped coffin being carried off a plane. This is war. This is the reality of war.

In a recent debate on the floor of the House regarding Afghanistan, I made reference to conservative George Will and liberal Thomas Friedman. Both have stated in written editorials that there is nothing we can accomplish in Afghanistan. In an article published in Newsweek yesterday, Richard Haass

shares this opinion. His article is entitled, "We're not winning. It's not worth it."

In my remaining time I would like to share some thoughts of a former general who's my personal adviser on Afghanistan. These are his words, not mine: "The basic 'mission' of defeating al Qaeda in Afghanistan is a sham. Our own intelligence tells us that there are only about 50 al Qaeda members in the mountains of Afghanistan and Pakistan . . . certainly nothing worth sending thousands upon thousands of our best young men and women to fight. Al Qaeda is not a geographic entity . . . it cannot be pinpointed to a single area. Attacking them in Afghanistan or Pakistan just pushes them to other locations . . . Yemen is the perfect example. It is like playing the child's game 'Whack a Mole.' Stop al Qaeda in one area and they will just pop up in another. Bottom Line: the war against terror is not to be found in the mountains of Afghanistan or Pakistan . . . as we have vividly seen in Uganda and the U.S. recently."

Madam Speaker, I mention that, and I have this poster that shows, again, as I have been repetitive for just one moment, the number of young men and women coming back from Afghanistan and Iraq in a flag-draped coffin.

It's our policy, responsibility on the House floor and in the Senate to debate policy. These young men and women are doing exactly what they joined the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Air Force and have sworn they will do for this country. They will go when their leaders call upon them to go. It is our responsibility on the floor of the House to debate the policy, and the policy on Afghanistan has been proven from Alexander the Great to the English, to the Russians, to all the countries: you are taking a country with over 1,400 tribes and trying to make it a nation. It just is not going to happen.

And it's not fair to our men and women in uniform to continue to send them back 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 deployments. We had a marine recently down at Camp Lejeune, which is in my district, a sergeant who committed suicide right there on the streets of Camp Lejeune.

We are wearing out our military. It's time to have another debate on the floor of the House, and it's time to bring these troops home and rebuild our military and rebuild the equipment and make America's military strong again.

Madam Speaker, I will close with this: God, please bless our men and women in uniform. Please bless the families of our men and women in uniform. And, God, in Your loving arms hold the families who've given a child dying for freedom in Afghanistan and Iraq. And, God, give the strength to the House and the Senate that we will do what is right in the eyes of God and give strength to Mr. Obama to do what is right in the eyes of God.

And, God, three times I will ask from the bottom of my heart, God, please,

God, please, God, please continue to bless America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

36TH ANNIVERSARY OF INVASION OF CYPRUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, for nearly 36 years, the people of Cyprus have endured an illegal occupation and massive violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms by Turkey after it invaded a sovereign nation 36 years ago tomorrow. It breaks my heart to hear the stories of how the occupied north has been devastated, how the Turkish occupiers have converted chapels in Kyrenia into bars and tourist information centers; how once beautiful churches have been converted into mosques; how the U.N. peacekeepers on the island have watched for 36 years as the Turkish Army has laid land mines and can only sit and note what's being done—a peacekeeping force operating with no mandate to stop the lawlessness.

It breaks my heart that families forcibly removed from their homes had all of their personal and real property stolen from them. More heartbreaking than anything else are the persons missing since 1974. Madam Speaker, whose families still grieve knowing they will never be at peace until their sons, brothers, husbands, and fathers are accounted for and whose bones must be laid to rest.

Yet the Turkish Government still refuses to cooperate. To us, their actions aren't acceptable. That is why we will continue to fight and persist in our efforts to reunify Cyprus and make the island whole again and heal the wounds. A solution to the Cyprus problem has come from the Cypriots themselves and must serve first and foremost the interests of the Cypriots.

The key to a successful outcome of the negotiating process and reunification of the island remains in Ankara, since a solution to the Cyprus problem cannot be reached without Turkey's full and constructive cooperation. Turkey must give the new Turkish Cypriot leader the freedom to negotiate a solution. Turkey must start with the removal of its occupation troops and illegal settlers from Cyprus.

The role of the U.N. and the international community is to provide assistance and support the process. The process should not be subjected to false time frames. The United States has publicly supported a solution of the Cyprus problem and specifically a